

# INFORMATION LETTER

## NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Not for  
Publication

For Members  
Only

No. 762

Washington, D. C.

October 7, 1939

### SUGGESTED DEFINITION FOR APRICOTS

#### Suggested Findings on Identity Standard Similar to Those for Peaches and Pears

The report containing suggested findings of fact and suggested conclusion in regard to identity of canned apricots, filed with the Secretary of Agriculture by John McDill Fox, presiding officer of the hearings held in April and May, are similar to those made regarding canned peaches and canned pears. The Brix limits for the various densities of sirups for canned apricots are identical to the limits for canned peaches. The suggested label terminology is likewise the same.

The suggested findings and suggested conclusion in the form of a regulation for canned apricots were published in the *Federal Register* of October 5, 1939.

The only differences between the suggested findings and suggested conclusion for canned apricots and those for canned peaches are: (1) no varietal distinctions are noted with apricots; and (2) the forms of units for canned apricots are not the same as for canned peaches.

Interested persons who desire to file objections may file them in writing with the Hearing Clerk, Department of Agriculture, within ten days after receipt of the *Federal Register* of October 5. This should include a brief statement concerning each of the objections, with reference to relevant pages of the transcript of evidence.

Public hearings on the definition and standard of identity proposed for canned apricots were held April 14, May 1, and May 2. It was ordered at that time that all evidence with reference to the sucrose-dextrose issue, introduced in evidence at the hearings on the definition and standard of identity proposal for canned peaches, be incorporated into the record for canned apricots.

The report consists of (1) a general statement relative to the public hearings held and testimony introduced, including the incorporation of the evidence on sugar; (2) the suggested findings of the presiding officer based on the evidence in the record; (3) a suggested conclusion in the form of a regulation; and (4) notice of time within which to file objections.

Only those portions of the suggested findings and the suggested conclusion for canned apricots are reproduced below that differ materially from the suggested findings and conclusion for canned peaches published in full in the INFORMATION LETTER for September 9. Reference is made in the proper places, however, to the identical or similar paragraphs in the suggested findings and conclusion for canned peaches as printed in the LETTER.

#### Definition and Standard of Identity

##### SUGGESTED FINDINGS

1. Canned apricots are prepared from mature apricots. (R. pp. 22, 23, 35)

2. Such apricots are in one of the following forms of units: whole peeled, whole unpeeled, halves peeled, halves unpeeled, peeled quarters, unpeeled quarters, peeled slices (peeled sliced), unpeeled slices (unpeeled sliced), peeled mixed pieces of irregular sizes and shapes, unpeeled mixed pieces of irregular sizes and shapes. (R. pp. 22, 23, 35, 46) Such forms of units are not mixed in canning. (R. pp. 22, 45) Each such form of units has its own designation. (R. pp. 22-23, 45) Canned apricots are not prepared in any other forms of units. (R. pp. 23, 45) Apricots of each such form

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#### Senate Debate on Neutrality Continues

Senate debate on proposed neutrality legislation began Monday, October 2, and continued throughout the week. The House, in the meantime, held short sessions on Monday and Thursday but took no legislative action. A unanimous consent request, offered on Thursday, by Majority Leader Rayburn, that the House continue to meet but twice a week until Monday, October 16, was objected to by Representative Hoffman of Michigan. It is expected that Mr. Rayburn will renew his request on Monday, October 9. Should objection again be made it is probable that the House will adjourn from day to day because of lack of a quorum. If a quorum is not present, of course, the House cannot take any legislative action.

#### PAPER INDUSTRY WAGES SET

##### Differentials Established in Walsh-Healey Scale Announced by Labor Department

The Division of Public Contracts of the United States Department of Labor made public October 3 the minimum wage scale for the paper and pulp industry. Such minimum wages are determined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the Walsh-Healey Government Contracts Act and must be paid to employees engaged in the performance of contracts with agencies of the Federal government. The minimum wage, to be arrived at upon either a time or piece-work basis, is as follows:

For the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Florida, and Texas, 35 cents an hour or \$14.00 per week of forty hours.

For the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and the District of Columbia, 39 cents an hour, or \$15.60 per week of forty hours.

For the States of Washington, Oregon, and California, 50 cents an hour or \$20.00 per week of forty hours.

### CHILE TRADE PACT PLANNED

#### List of Chilean Products Considered for Tariff Concessions Includes Several Foods

Formal notice of intent to negotiate a trade agreement with Chile was made October 2 by Secretary of State Hull. Food products included in the list of commodities on which the United States will consider granting concessions to Chile include mainly fresh and dried fruits and vegetables. Preserved melons, except watermelons, are included. In addition, a number of drugs and copper ore are listed.

Briefs containing information and views in writing on the proposal to grant tariff concessions on the products listed must be filed by November 11 with the Committee for Reciprocity Information, Eighth and E Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C. No list of products on which Chile will consider granting reductions in tariff is furnished, but exporters interested in having United States products considered by Chile should submit briefs on this subject with the Committee by November 11. Six copies of these statements should be submitted, of which one copy must be sworn to.

Those persons desiring to be heard at the public hearing opening November 27 must file application for a hearing by November 11.

The food products included in the list of commodities on which the United States will consider granting tariff concessions to Chile, with information on the present rate of duty to imports from Chile, are as follows:

Commodity	Present Rate
Apricots, green, ripe, or in brine.....	16¢ per lb.
Peaches (including nectarines), green, ripe, or in brine .....	16¢ per lb.
Plums, prunes, and prunelles, green, ripe, or in brine .....	16¢ per lb.
Pears, green, ripe, or in brine.....	16¢ per lb.
Melons (except watermelons) in their natural state, or in brine, pickled, dried, desiccated, evaporated, or otherwise prepared or preserved, and not specially provided for.....	33% ad val. 3¢ per lb. 16¢ per lb.
Beans, not specially provided for, dried.....	13¢ per lb.
Lentils.....	13¢ per lb.
Chick-peas or garbanzos, dried .....	21¢ per lb.
Onions.....	28¢ per cubic foot of such bulk or the capacity of the pack- ages, according as imported
Grapes in bulk, crates, barrels, or other packages.....	28¢ per cubic foot of such bulk or the capacity of the pack- ages, according as imported

### Restrictions of Foreign Trade

Additional restrictions on foreign trade announced this week, as reported to the Department of Commerce by American foreign officials, are summarized briefly in the following paragraphs:

**United Kingdom.**—The Food Ministry has requisitioned all future imports of refined lard from all sources except Eire. Only licensed dealers can import refined lard.

**Eire.**—Licenses required for exportation of many commodities, including articles imported primarily from the United Kingdom and European countries.

**Argentina.**—A preferential exchange rate for many products important to American trade, including codfish and sardines, has been granted. The preferential rate of 15 pesos to the pound, or 3.7313 pesos to the dollar, applies to a number of products that have been imported in considerable amounts in the past.

**Finland.**—A local importer of large quantities of American canned foods informed the American Legation at Helsinki

that his application for licenses has been refused because the government considered such goods to be luxuries.

**Jamaica.**—Licenses required for importations of condensed milk, flour, rice, corn meal, wheat, corn, peas, beans, and potatoes.

### Memorandum on Canning Industry's Problems Arising from War Given Wide Circulation

The memorandum on problems arising from the war in Europe and on the effects of the 1914-1918 World War, which was presented at the recent meeting of the Administrative Council and which was later issued in printed form for distribution to the entire canning industry, has also received wide circulation among distributors and related trades.

At the request of several distributors' organizations, copies were provided for their use, and to date about 10,000 copies of the bulletin have been circulated.

Canners desiring additional copies for their own files or use may obtain them upon application to the Association.

### Partial Exemption from Hours Provisions for Apple Cold-Storage Warehouses

A partial exemption from the hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act for the cold storage of apples in apple-storage warehouses located in the "Appalachian area" was proposed by Administrator Andrews of the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor on October 4. The proposal that this industry is entitled to exemption as a seasonal one was contained in a preliminary determination declaring that a *prima facie* case had been made in applications filed by the Winchester Cold Storage Co., Inc., and other parties.

Objections to granting the exemption will be received by the administrator for a period of 15 days. If no objections or requests for a hearing are received, the administrator will make findings upon the *prima facie* case presented in the applications.

The granting of the exemption, which is provided for in Section 7 (b) (3) of the law, would allow employers to pay their employees at straight-time rates for 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week for a period of not more than 14 weeks in the aggregate each year. For work over 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week compensation at the rate of not less than time and one-half would be required.

Exemptions under Section 7 (b) (3) apply to industries "found by the administrator to be of a seasonal nature." Such exemptions should not be confused with the specific statutory exemption of 14 weeks in the aggregate each year from the hours limitations of the law granted canners of perishable or seasonal fruits and vegetables under Section 7 (c).

### Net Contents of Canned Soups

The Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act requires that the label of every package of food bear a statement of net contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. The regulation issued by the Department of Agriculture to guide officials

in the enforcement of this particular portion of the Act (Section 403 (e) (2)) reads as follows:

"The statement shall be expressed in the terms of weight, measure, numerical count, or a combination of numerical count and weight or measure, which are generally used by consumers to express quantity of such food and which give accurate information as to the quantity thereof."

Food and Drug officials state that they find almost all consumers use liquid and semi-liquid foods in units of volume rather than of weight. The Administration therefore is requiring that canned foods such as soups, syrups, evaporated milk, etc., have the net contents stated in terms of liquid measure. This applies to concentrated soups as well as unconcentrated soups.

In the past many labels of canned soups have stated the net contents in terms of weight in accordance with trade usage. Canners, therefore, should review their labels for such products in order to bring them into conformance with the Food and Drug Administration requirements.

#### SUGGESTED DEFINITION FOR APRICOTS

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of units are an optional apricot ingredient. (R. pp. 23, 34, 45, 46)

3. Except in the case of whole apricots, canned apricots are pitted. (R. p. 45)

4. Canned apricots contain a suitable liquid packing medium. (R. pp. 24, 34, 45-46) It may be the natural juice of the apricot obtained by precooking the apricots so that such juice exudes, or it may be an added liquid. (R. pp. 36, 48, 92)

5. Water is a suitable liquid packing medium. (R. pp. 25, 45)

6. The natural juice of the apricot is a suitable liquid packing medium. (R. pp. 65, 86-87, 88)

7. A water solution of sugar is a suitable liquid packing medium. (R. pp. 45, 78-82); (*Identity of Peaches*, R. pp. 37, 38, 48, 53, 92, 156, 183, 214)

8-34. [Except for the product's name and references to pages in the transcript of evidence, paragraphs 8 through 34 in suggested findings for canned apricots are identical with paragraphs 12 through 38 of suggested findings for canned peaches, published on pages 5967-5972 of INFORMATION LETTER for September 9. Canners should substitute "apricots" for "peaches" when reading. Paragraphs 8-34 of the canned apricot findings are descriptive with reference to sugar, and refer to the Brix limits for the various syrup densities suggested. These paragraphs are similar to paragraphs 12-38 in the suggested findings for canned peaches.]

35. The liquid of the finished canned apricots is not more than 40° as determined by the Brix hydrometer. (R. pp. 29, 34, 45, 66, 67)

36-45. [Except for the product's name and references to pages in transcript of hearing, paragraphs 36 through 45 in suggested findings for canned apricots are identical with paragraphs 39 through 48 for canned peaches, page 5972, INFORMATION LETTER.]

46. The common or usual name of unpeeled canned apricots is the name of the form of unit, qualified by the term "unpeeled." (R. pp. 23, 53, 67, 73-74, 83, 84, 85)

47. The common or usual name of peeled canned apricots is the name of the form of unit, qualified by the term "peeled." (R. pp. 23, 53, 67, 73-74, 83, 84, 85)

48-57. [Except for the product's name and references to pages in transcript of hearing, paragraphs 48 through 57 in suggested findings for canned apricots are identical with paragraphs 52 through 61 for canned peaches, pages 5972-5973, INFORMATION LETTER.]

#### SUGGESTED CONCLUSION IN THE FORM OF A REGULATION

Upon the basis of the foregoing findings of fact, the following reasonable definition and standard of identity for the food commonly known as canned apricots is hereby suggested to be promulgated as a regulation:

**§ 27.010 Canned apricots—Identity; label statement of optional ingredients.**

(a) Canned apricots are the food prepared from mature apricots. Such apricots, except in the case of whole apricots, are pitted, and are in one of the following forms of units: whole peeled; whole unpeeled; halves peeled; halves unpeeled; peeled quarters; unpeeled quarters; peeled slices (peeled sliced); unpeeled slices (unpeeled sliced); peeled mixed pieces of irregular sizes and shapes; unpeeled mixed pieces of irregular sizes and shapes. Apricots of each such form of units are an optional apricot ingredient. To one such ingredient is added one of the optional ingredients:

11-40. [Except for the product's name and references to pages in transcript of hearing, paragraphs 11 through 40 (consisting of optional ingredients) in the suggested conclusion for canned apricots are identical with paragraphs 33 through 62 in the suggested conclusion for canned peaches, pages 5973-5974, INFORMATION LETTER.]

(41) Apricot kernels [except in the case of whole apricots and except when optional ingredient (40—apricot pits) is present].

The food is sealed in a container and so processed by heat as to prevent spoilage. The liquid of the finished canned apricots is not more than 40° Brix.

(b) The label shall bear the words "Whole Peeled," or "Whole Unpeeled"; "Halves Peeled", or "Halves Unpeeled"; "Peeled Quarters", or "Unpeeled Quarters"; "Peeled Slices", or "Peeled Sliced"; "Unpeeled Slices", or "Unpeeled Sliced"; "Peeled Mixed Pieces of Irregular Sizes and Shapes", or "Unpeeled Mixed Pieces of Irregular Sizes and Shapes"; naming the optional apricot ingredient present.

[The remainder of section (b) in the suggested conclusion for canned apricots is identical, except for product's name and references, to the remainder of section (b) in the suggested conclusion for canned peaches, page 5974, INFORMATION LETTER. Here, it is specifically called to attention, the suggested label terminology descriptive of syrups is identical for the two products.]

#### Proposed Trade Practices for Sardine Industry

Proposed trade practice rules for the sardine industry have been made public by the Federal Trade Commission, with an announcement that a hearing on the proposed rules will be held at Washington on October 23. All persons affected

by or having an interest in the rules may, if they desire, submit their views in writing prior to the date of the hearing. Copies of the rules may be obtained from the Commission.

Included in the proposed rules are definitions of improper packing, of the terms "natural style" and of "seconds", and provisions relating to sardines unfit for sale; misuse of term "natural style"; misrepresentation of "seconds"; misrepresentation of the industry's products; deceptive depictions; imitation of trade-marks; use of slack-filled or short-weight containers; defamation of competitors or disparagement of their products; substitution of inferior products for those ordered; misuse of the word "free"; fictitious prices; false invoicing; commercial bribery; enticing away of employees of competitors; unfair threats of infringement suits; consignment selling; selling below cost; prohibition of discriminatory prices, rebates, refunds, discounts, etc.; prohibited brokerage and commissions; prohibited advertising or promotional allowances; prohibited discriminatory services or facilities; aiding or abetting use of unfair trade practices.

In addition to the foregoing Group I rules, there are two rules in Group II relating to cost records and repudiation or cancellation of contracts.

#### **Complaints Issued Against Canning Companies**

The Federal Trade Commission this week issued complaints against two canning companies charging in each case misleading representations concerning the products. The complaint on one product, tomato paste, alleged that through use of phraseology in the Italian language, depictions of Italian type tomatoes, and other representations relative to Italy or Italian origin, the canning company led purchasers to believe that its tomato paste was made in Italy from Italian tomatoes, and that one brand of its paste was awarded the first grand prize at the Milan exposition of 1922, although such was not the case.

In the second complaint, issued against a company packing a dog food, it was alleged that the respondent company represented that its dog foods contain beef by-products, ground beef bone and beef, and that its foods are scientifically balanced rations, and scientifically balanced beef rations, when such are not the facts.

A stipulation was accepted by a tuna-fish packing company, which agreed to cease using on its labels, or otherwise, the words, "Italia Tonno" or "Tonno" in connection with any other Italian words, pictorial representation, insignia, or otherwise, so as to imply that its tuna fish are from the coasts of Italy, or were packed in and imported from Italy, when such are not the facts.

#### **FSCC to Buy Pears and Apples for Relief Use**

The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation has been authorized to buy surplus apples, in any of the producing States, and surplus fall and winter pears of certain varieties in the States of Oregon, Washington, and California.

The minimum grade of apples to be bought is Combination U. S. No. 1 and U. S. Utility, or an equivalent State grade. The pear varieties to be purchased will include Beurre D'Anjou, Beurre Bosc, Winter Nelis, Beurre Hardy, Doyenne du Comice, Beurre Easter, and Beurre Clairgeau.

#### **CONSUMER EDUCATION TRENDS**

##### **Greater Use Made of Authoritative Information in Radio and Student Training Fields**

Developments in consumer education activities in the United States, observed by Miss Ruth Atwater of the Association's Home Economics Division on her trip to and from the convention of the American Dietetic Association held recently at Los Angeles, will result in increased endeavors of the Association to meet the demands of these new trends.

A wider range of subjects is being included in many programs of broadcasting stations all over the country designed by staffs of these stations to interest women. The staffs are becoming increasingly aware of the need for accurate, definite information for homemakers, and one of the methods of obtaining this information is to interview guest speakers who can present specific viewpoints. Food matters, of course, are always of interest to homemakers, and the consumer material prepared by the Association fits this need. Miss Atwater, on her recent trip, was interviewed on such radio programs in Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Portland, and Seattle, with two broadcasts in both Salt Lake City and San Francisco.

Among the women consumer groups to whom Miss Atwater spoke, it was found that the work of the Association in collaborating with the Bureau of Standards on the simplification of can sizes is known and appreciated. Women in these groups expressed interest in this work, and also in all aspects of canned food labeling.

The work in distributive education, sponsored by the Federal Office of Education in conjunction with State departments of education, which is being developed throughout the country, is a new program in the education field. Miss Atwater spoke to groups working in this program in every State she visited on her trip, and as a result of these contacts and observations, the Association's Home Economics Division plans a new publication especially adopted to training students in this field.

The distributive education program is planned to interest grocers, as well as other distributive groups, in employee training. Adult classes are being held in some States for grocery clerks, and in other places high school students are being trained for such work. In all parts of the country, the program is being adapted to particular community needs. In one State there are already more than 13,000 students enrolled in these courses, and in this State the director of the work has requested a supply of the Association's consumer education publications for all of his co-ordinators.

Many of the Association's publications already have been sent to State and city education departments in which this program is functioning, and the new distributive education publication now planned by the Association will contain information on canned foods particularly valuable in this type of training.

#### **Increase in Freight Car Loadings Expected**

Freight car loadings for the fourth quarter of 1939 are expected to be about 13.8 per cent above actual loadings in the same quarter of 1938, according to estimates just compiled by the thirteen Shippers' Advisory Boards. On the

basis of these estimates, freight car loadings of the 29 principal commodities will be 5,784,468 cars in the fourth quarter of 1939, compared with 5,083,573 actual car loadings for the same classes of commodities in the corresponding period last year. It has been announced that, in view of changes in conditions resulting from the war in Europe, a supplementary canvass may be made in October on which a revised forecast can be based.

### Railroads Report Loss and Damage Claims Paid

The Association of American Railroads has issued a circular showing freight loss and damage during the first six months of 1939, as reported by 142 carriers, representing 95 per cent of United States mileage and 99 per cent of Canadian mileage. Total loss and damage reported amounts to \$9,185,333. Loss and damage to canned foods totaled \$182,084, which represents 2 per cent of the loss to all commodities. The canned foods classification includes all canned food products in both tin and glass containers.

Claims paid by the railroads were 21.5 per cent less in the first half of 1939 than they were in the same period of 1938, and 22.2 per cent below the same period of 1937. The reduction from the 1938 amount was \$2,512,944.

In the following table, compiled from the circular of the Association of American Railroads, are shown amounts of loss or damage claims paid for canned foods, reported by cause and by size of shipments during the first six months of 1939:

Cause of loss or damage	Carload	Less than carload
Unlocated loss:		
Entire package.....	\$4,141	\$2,445
Other than entire package.....	566	895
Unlocated damage:		
Freight in packages.....	129,601	10,087
Freight not in packages.....	1,855	1,475
Improper handling.....	13,945	345
Defective equipment.....	2,074	96
Temperature failures:		
Improper refrigeration.....	176	2
Freezing or heater failure.....	12	269
Delay.....	358	62
Theft:		
Entire package.....	1,491	236
Other than entire package.....	122	50
Concealed:		
Loss.....	27	33
Damage.....	600	1,480
Train accidents.....	7,680	269
Fire, marine, and catastrophes.....	400	53
Error of employee.....	305	226
Total.....	\$164,052	\$18,032

### Two New Areas for Stamp Plan Purchases

Two new areas in which the stamp plan of distributing foods to families on relief rolls will be put into effect were announced October 4. These are the two cities of Allentown and Bethlehem, Pa., with combined population of about 160,000; and Salt Lake County, Utah, including Salt Lake City, with population of about 200,000. The plan will begin in these areas in about a month.

With these two areas, the stamp plan program will be in effect in nine areas and cities. The plan in these two areas will be similar to that used in Rochester, N. Y.; that is, relief clients will be permitted to buy each week orange colored stamps to the amount of \$1 for each person in the family, and will be given by the government blue stamps to purchase surplus foods in the amount of 50 cents per week per person.

### Late September Situation for Vegetable Crops

The combined acreage of all late truck crops reported to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to date is slightly smaller than a year ago and yields per acre are averaging generally lower, the Bureau stated in "The Vegetable Situation" issued September 30. "Production of most late truck crops is sharply smaller in 1939 than in 1938," the report said. Notable exceptions are large crops of late celery, onions, and watermelons. The second late lettuce acreage is increased sharply and if yields are as high as in 1938, this crop may also be relatively large. The prospects appear to be favorable for the planting and development of fall and winter truck crops grown in the Southern States and California.

"Although many of the late commercial truck crops appear to be in lighter supply this season than last, market prices of a number have been lower in recent weeks than in the corresponding period of 1938. These lower prices in some instances reflect increased marketings from the local market garden areas this season. As compared with a month ago, market prices of truck crops generally are higher because of seasonal factors. The usual seasonal trend of prices is upward from this time until late winter, since marketings usually decrease during this period or until the supplies from the South begin to move in considerable volume."

### Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

#### Carlot Shipments as reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

VEGETABLES	Week ending—					Season total to—
	Sept. 30, 1938	Sept. 30, 1939	Sept. 23, 1939	Sept. 30, 1938	Sept. 30, 1939	
Beans, snap and lima.....	6	55	38	8,149	6,665	
Tomatoes.....	720	401	543	32,162	25,087	
Green peas.....	119	114	115	5,872	6,740	
Spinach.....	51	10	33	6,709	6,429	
Others:						
Domestic, competing directly.....	3,652	2,006	1,071	126,193	125,172	
Imports, competing indirectly.....	86	95	67	386	305	
<b>FRUITS</b>						
Citrus, domestic.....	2,571	1,602	1,005	160,427	179,107	
Imports.....	6	24	25	202	134	
Others, domestic.....	3,764	3,912	4,854	64,712	54,398	

### Questions Census Will Ask Business Made Public

The questions to be asked American business in the 1940 census were made public this week. The business census starts January 2, 1940, and covers retail and wholesale trade, service business such as barber and beauty shops, etc., hotels, tourist camps, theatres and other places of amusement, laundries, and the construction business.

The census will cover business operations during the calendar year of 1939, except for those firms that close their books on January 31. In such cases, the reports will be taken on a fiscal-year basis. Information will be gathered on volume of business, number of employees, total payroll, and other inquiries limited to particular fields of business such as breakdown of sales by commodities in the case of retailers and wholesalers, or room capacity in the case of hotels.

Data on amount of business done on credit will be collected, with a breakdown to show open-account and installment sales separately. Information covering stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year will be secured as well as data on accounts receivable. Proprietors-owners and unpaid family members who work in the business will be classified separately to show the extent of self employment.

### Schedule of Conventions

- Florida Canners Association*—October 12, at Tampa.  
*Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association*—November 1-2, at Des Moines, Hotel Fort Des Moines.  
*Wisconsin Canners Association*—November 13-15, at Milwaukee, Schroeder Hotel.  
*Association of Pacific Fisheries*—November 15, at Del Monte, Calif., preceded by annual two-day golf tournament.  
*Indiana Canners Association*—November 16-17, at Indianapolis, Claypool Hotel.  
*Pennsylvania Canners Association*—November 16-17, at York, Pa., Yorktowne Hotel.  
*Michigan Canners Association*—December 5-6, at Grand Rapids, Hotel Pantlind.  
*Tri-State Packers' Association*—December 7-8, place not decided.  
*Association of New York State Canners*—December 14-15, place not decided.

### Canners Admitted to Membership

The following canners have become members of the Association since July 29, 1939:

- Beach Packing Company, Beach, Wash.  
Dorgan Packing Corporation, Biloxi, Miss.  
Hershel California Fruit Products Co., San Jose, Calif.  
Last Minute Fine Foods, Inc., Oakland, Calif.  
McPhillips Packing Corporation, Biloxi, Miss.  
Neal Canneries, Hurlock, Md.  
Northern Processing Company, Traverse City, Mich.  
Pasco Packing Association, Date City, Fla.  
Regan Brothers Canning Company, Seattle, Wash.

### Portuguese Sardine Canners Resume Operations

The reappearance after a long absence of sardines off the coast of Portugal constitutes an encouraging factor in that country's economy, according to a report from the American consul at Lisbon. In the important fishing district of Setubal, the report said, the scarcity of sardines brought about an acute unemployment situation, as a number of cannery factories were obliged to discontinue operations. It is reported that several of these cannerys have now been reopened.

As a result of the unusual volume of exports to Germany at the close of the first half of this year, stocks of canned sardines on hand in Portugal have appreciably diminished, but with a satisfactory run they can easily be replenished.

The sardines now being taken in Portuguese waters are of the small variety and not suitable for the American market, it is pointed out.

### Netherlands Takes Tomato Crop for Canned Soup

The government of the Netherlands is utilizing that country's surplus tomato crop in the production of canned soup, according to a report from the American consul general at Rotterdam. The Netherlands, the report points out, is a large producer of tomatoes, which are grown in glass houses. Production in 1938 amounted to approximately 70,000 tons, of which more than 45,000 tons were exported fresh, chiefly to Germany and Great Britain.

Foreign demand for tomatoes, however, has been declining and as a result Netherlands growers find themselves each year with increasing quantities unsold at the auction markets. The tomatoes that do not bring the minimum official price are now taken over by the government and distributed in part among the unemployed and the poor.

Last year for the first time a considerable quantity of the surplus crop was manufactured into tomato soup for the account of the government. It is reported that three canning plants produced 4,500,000 one-liter cans of "government" tomato soup. About 3,500,000 cans were sold to the public through regular trade channels and about 1,000,000 cans distributed among the unemployed and the poor.

Sales of "government" tomato soup were promoted by an advertising campaign subsidized by the government. Indications are, the report said, that this year's production of "government" tomato soup in cans will be substantially larger than in 1938.

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